A participatory approach to developing an HIV Nursing Research Strategy

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Development strategy for HIV Nursing. (NHIVNA membership). The majority had consensus agreement of three research – Refinement of the priority areas. Round 3 generated 60 responses which were organised into 12 broad categories.

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June 2018
Funded by Imperial College NHS Foundation Trust, London

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A aim
To develop a National Research and Development strategy for HIV Nursing.

Methods
Two-stage project involving:
A consensus workshop involving a purposive sample of 14 to outline scope of the strategy and identify research priority areas. Nominal Group Technique (NGT) using three rounds of structured activities to generate qualitative information and aggregate judgements to achieve consensus [2].
An online survey of NHIVNA membership to: a) canvass opinions on the outcomes of the workshop, b) establish individual levels of research experience and engagement.

Results
Workshop outcomes
Round 1 – The nominal question ‘What direction does HIV nursing research need to be moving in?’ generated 60 responses which were organised into 12 broad categories.
Round 2 – Deliberation and debate produced consensus agreement of three priority areas and coverage of those areas.
Round 3 – Refinement of the priority areas and consensus agreement of three research themes:
Health care delivery
Patient experience
Developing a workforce

Survey results
29 nurses completed the survey (8.7% of NHIVNA membership). The majority had clinical roles (79%, n=23).

Fig 1: Research experience of respondents

Fig 2: Proportion interested to be involved in each research theme

In free text responses, respondents suggested some benefits of having a strategy:
“I think this is a very exciting development. A research strategy can help us to develop strong research networks and use these networks to a) undertake high-quality research projects that address current priorities and can make a significant contribution to HIV treatment and care and b) increase HIV research nursing capacity and capability.”

“...to embed nurse-led research on the agenda for HIV nurses.”

Conclusion
This initiative is a milestone for HIV nursing in the UK. Efforts are now directed towards the five-year implementation plan.

References

Acknowledgments
Funding support from M-A-C AIDS Foundation and National HIV Nurses Association.

Discussion
Developing the research strategy with full stakeholder involvement enabled NHIVNA to establish a shared focus around agreed research priorities. The strategy document provides a five year vision for HIV nursing research including an operational plan [3].